DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

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DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

Legislative Auditor P. O. Box 94397 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9397

AFFIDAVIT

Personally came and appeared before the undersigned authority, Jeremy M. Evans, DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court, who duly sworn, deposes and says, that the financial statements herewith given presents fairly the financial position of the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court at June 30, 2013 and the results of operations for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

day of _ December , 2013.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this _____16th

HINES, SHEFFIELD & SQUYRES, L.L.C.

FRANK S. HINES, CPA LEWIS C. HINES, CPA E. MERLIN SQUYRES, CPA JAY H. SHEFFIELD, CPA JAMES S. SHEFFIELD, CPA CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS P.O. BOX 2188 - 133 EAST FIFTH STREET NATCHITOCHES, LA 71457

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Honorable Jeremy M. Evans DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court Mansfield, Louisiana 71052

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court, Mansfield, Louisiana, a component unit of the DeSoto Parish Police Jury, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2013, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Clerk's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court, a component unit of the DeSoto Parish Police Jury, as of June 30, 2013, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and the budgetary comparison information on pages 4 to 8 and 27, respectively, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court's basic financial statements. The accompanying information identified in the table of contents as Other Supplementary Information is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The Other Supplementary Information schedules are the responsibility of management and were derived from and related directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, we have also issued a report dated December 16, 2013 on our consideration of the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> in considering the Clerk's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

The financial information for the year ended June 30, 2012, which is included for comparative purposes, was taken from the financial report for that year in which we expressed an unqualified opinion dated December 26, 2012, on the basic financial statements fo the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court.

Hines, Sheffield & Squyres Natchitoches, Louisiana December 16, 2013

DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS JUNE 30, 2013

The Management's Discussion and Analysis of the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court's financial performance presents a narrative overview and analysis of DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court's financial activities for the year ended June 30, 2013. This document focuses on the current year's activities, resulting changes, and currently known facts. Please read this document in conjunction with the additional information contained in the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court's financial statements, which begin on page 9.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- 1) The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court had cash and investments of \$5,653,826 at June 30, 2013, which represents an increase of \$362,140 from the prior year end.
- 2) The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court had accounts receivable of \$55,608 at June 30, 2013, which represents a decrease of \$15,378 from the prior year end.
- 3) The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court had accounts payable and accruals of \$44,728 at June 30, 2013, which represents an increase of \$38,210 from the prior year end.
- 4) The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court had total revenues of \$1,729,987 for the year ended June 30, 2013, which represents a decrease of \$419,351 from the prior year.
- 5) The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court had fees, fines and charges for services revenues of \$1,675,948 for the year ended June 30, 2013, which represents a decrease of \$425,420 from the prior year.
- The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court had total expenses of \$1,465,744 for the year ended June 30, 2013, which represents a decrease of \$399,792 from the prior year.
- 7) The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court had personal services expense of \$1,070,292 for the year ended June 30, 2013, which represents a decrease of \$323,361 from the prior year.
- 8) The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court had operating services expense of \$133,982 for the year ended June 30, 2013, which represents a decrease of \$86,894 from the prior year.
- 9) The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court had supplies expense of \$45,814 for the year ended June 30, 2013, which represents a decrease of \$74,322 from the prior year.
- The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court had capital asset purchases of \$43,007 for the year ended June 30, 2013, which represents a decrease of \$21,392 from the prior year.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following graphic illustrates the minimum requirements for the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court as established by Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 34, <u>Basic Financial Statements—and Management's Discussion</u> and Analysis—for State and Local Governments.

<u>DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT</u> <u>MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA</u> <u>MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTINUED)</u> JUNE 30, 2013

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Management Discussion and Analysis

Basic Financial Statements

Required Supplementary Information (Other than MD&A)

These financial statements consist of three sections - Management's Discussion and Analysis (this section), the basic financial statements (including the notes to the financial statements), and required supplementary information.

Basic Financial Statements

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities (on pages 9 and 10) provide information about the activities of the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court as a whole and present a longer-term view of the Clerk of Court's finances. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities report the Clerk of Court's net position and changes in them. You can think of the Clerk of Court's net position, the difference between assets and liabilities, as one way to measure the Clerk of Court's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the Fund's net position are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating.

Fund financial statements start on page 11. All of the Clerk of Court's basic services are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year end that are available for spending. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short term view of the Clerk of Court's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Clerk of Court's activities as well as what remains for future spending.

<u>DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT</u> <u>MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA</u> <u>MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTINUED)</u> <u>JUNE 30, 2013</u>

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE ENTITY

Statement of Net Position As of Year End

	-	2013	23 - 22	2012
Current and other assets	\$	5,715,309	\$	5,368,265
Capital assets, net	-	93,315		106,388
Total Assets	\$	5,808,624	\$	5,474,653
Other liabilities	\$	44,728	\$	6,518
Other post employment benefits payable	1	564,709		533,191
Total Liabilities		609,437		539,709
Net assets				
Investment in capital assets, net of related debt		93,315		106,388
Unrestricted	i.	5,105,872		4,828,556
Total Net Position	-	5,199,187		4,934,944
Total Liabilities and Net Position	\$	5,808,624	\$	5,474,653

Net assets of the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court increased by \$264,243 or 5.35% from the previous fiscal year. The increase is the result of operating and non-operating revenues exceeding expenses during the fiscal year ended 2013 (See table below).

Statement of Activities For the Year Ended

		2013		2012
General government				
Expenses	\$	(1,465,744)	\$	(1,865,536)
Program revenues				
Fees and charges for services		1,675,948		2,101,368
Operating grants and contributions	3:	17,500	÷	20,700
Subtotal		227,704		256,532
General revenues	*	36,539	3 <u>0</u>	27,270
Change in net position	<u>\$</u>	264,243	\$	283,802

The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court's total revenues decreased by \$419,351 or 19.51% from the previous year. The total cost of all programs and services decreased by \$399,792 or 21.43% from the previous year.

<u>DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT</u> <u>MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA</u> <u>MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTINUED)</u> <u>JUNE 30, 2013</u>

CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

At the end of 2013, the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court had \$93,315, net of depreciation, invested in a broad range of capital assets (See table below). This amount represents a net decrease (including additions and retirements) of \$13,073 or 12.29% from the previous year.

Capital Assets at Year End (Net of Depreciation)

		2013		2012
Automobile	\$	02.215	\$	0
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	-	93,315	ie.	106,388
Total	\$	93,315	\$	106,388
This year's major additions included:				
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	\$ 43,007			
This years's major retirements included:				
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	\$ 10,338			

Debt

The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court had \$564,709 in other post employment benefits payable at year end compared to \$533,191 at the previous year end, which is an increase of \$31,518 or 5.91% as shown in the table below.

Outstanding Debt at Year End

	-	2013	Kr.	2012		
Other post employment benefits payable	\$	564,709	\$	533,191		
Totals	\$	564,709	\$	533,191		

New debt during the year included:

None.

<u>DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT</u> <u>MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA</u> <u>MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTINUED)</u> JUNE 30, 2013

VARIATIONS BETWEEN ORIGINAL AND FINAL BUDGETS

Actual revenues were \$10,987 more than budgeted amounts due to interest and investment income being more than expected.

Actual expenditures were \$58,847 less than budgeted amounts due to personal services being less than expected.

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET

The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court's elected official considered the following factors and indicators when setting next year's budget, rates, and fees. These factors and indicators include:

- 1) Fees, fines and charges for services
- 2) Interest income
- 3) Miscellaneous revenues

The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court does not expect any significant changes in next year's results as compared to the current year.

CONTACTING THE DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT'S MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court's finances and to show the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Jeremy M. Evans, DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court, P. O. Box 1206, Mansfield, Louisiana 71052.

DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2013 AND 2012

LOOPING		2013	7 <u>4</u>	2012
ASSETS Current Assets				
Cash	\$	761,699	\$	1,149,329
Investments		4,892,127		4,142,357
Accounts receivable		55,608		70,986
Prepaid expenses		5,875	i e	5,593
Total Current Assets		5,715,309		5,368,265
Noncurrent Assets				
Capital assets, net		93,315	de .	106,388
Total Assets	<u>\$</u>	5,808,624	\$	5,474,653
LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION LIABILITIES Current Liabilities Accounts payable and accruals Total Current Liabilities	\$	44,728 44,728	\$	6,518 6,518
Noncurrent Liabilities				
Other post employment benefits payable		564,709		533,191
Total Liabilities		609,437		539,709
NET POSITION				
Investment in capital assets, net of related debt		93,315		106,388
Unrestricted		5,105,872		4,828,556
Total Net Position		5,199,187	0	4,934,944
Total Liabilities and Net Position	\$	5,808,624	\$	5,474,653

DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013 AND 2012

						2013				-		2012
			Fe	es, Fines, and		Operating		Capital	I	Revenue and	- 1	Revenue and
				Charges		Grants and		Grants and		Changes in		Changes in
	4	Expense		for Services	_(Contributions	_(Contributions		Net Position	- 0	Net Position
General Government		20										
Personal services	\$	1,070,292	\$	1,272,469	\$	17,500	\$	0	\$	219,677	\$	239,707
Travel		24,173		28,739		0		0		4,566		1,166
Operating services		133,982		159,291		0		0		25,309		34,710
Supplies		45,814		54,468		0		0		8,654		18,879
Professional services		135,403		160,981		0		0		25,578		11,614
Depreciation	-	56,080		0		0		0	-	(56,080)		(49,544)
Total General Government	\$	1,465,744	\$	1,675,948	\$	17,500	\$	0		227,704		256,532
General Revenues												
Interest										21,476		24,532
Miscellaneous										15,063		2,738
Total General Revenues									2	36,539		27,270
Change in Net Position										264,243		283,802
Net Position, Beginning of year									%	4,934,944		4,651,142
Net Position, End of year									\$	5,199,187	\$	4,934,944

DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS JUNE 30, 2013 AND 2012

		2013	W-	2012
ASSETS Cash Investments Accounts receivable Prepaid expenses	\$	761,699 4,892,127 55,608 5,875	\$	1,149,329 4,142,357 70,986 5,593
Total Assets	\$	5,715,309	\$	5,368,265
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES LIABILITIES Accounts payable and accruals Total Liabilities	<u>\$</u>	44,728 44,728	\$	6,518 6,518
FUND BALANCES Nonspendable Unassigned Total Fund Balances	_	5,875 5,664,706 5,670,581		5,593 5,356,154 5,361,747
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$	5,715,309	\$	5,368,265

EXHIBIT D

DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2013

Total Fund Balances for Governmental Funds (Exhibit C)

\$ 5,670,581

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds. Those assets consist of:

Automobile, net of \$0 in accumulated depreciation \$ 0

Furniture, fixtures and equipment, net of \$187,079
in accumulated depreciation \$ 93,315

Total Capital Assets 93,315

Long-term liabilities, including other post employment benefits payable, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the fund liabilities.

(564,709)

Total Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit A)

\$ 5,199,187

DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA

$\underline{\text{STATEMENT OF REVENUES}}, \underline{\text{EXPENDITURES}}, \underline{\text{AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES}}$

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013 AND 2012

		2012	V	2012
REVENUES	_			
Fees, fines and charges for services	\$	1,675,948	\$	2,101,368
Intergovernmental revenues		17,500		20,700
Interest and investment income		21,476		24,532
Miscellaneous		15,063	1	2,738
Total Revenues		1,729,987		2,149,338
EXPENDITURES				
General government				
Personal services		1,038,774		1,213,175
Travel		24,173		7,419
Operating services		133,982		220,876
Supplies		45,814		120,136
Professional services		135,403		73,908
Capital outlay		43,007		64,399
Total Expenditures		1,421,153		1,699,913
Excess/(Deficiency) Of Revenues Over Expenditures		308,834		449,425
Fund Balance, Beginning of year		5,361,747	æ	4,912,322
Fund Balance, End of year	\$	5,670,581	\$	5,361,747

EXHIBIT F

DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

Net Change in Fund Balances-Total Governmental Funds (Exhibit E)	\$ 308,834
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:	
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation (\$56,080) exceeds capital outlay (\$43,007) in the current period.	(13,073)
Some expense reported in the statement of activities, such as other post employment benefits, do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.	(31,518)
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit B)	\$ 264,243

DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY ASSETS AND LIABILITIES FIDUCIARY FUNDS JUNE 30, 2013 AND 2012

				2012				
		Registry of Court		Advance Deposit		Total		Total
ASSETS								
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	1,498,029	\$	276,657	\$	1,774,686	\$	1,807,397
Investments		0		155,000		155,000		155,000
Total Assets	<u>\$</u>	1,498,029	<u>\$</u>	431,657	\$	1,929,686	<u>\$</u>	1,962,397
LIABILITIES								
Due to others	\$	1,498,029	<u>\$</u>	431,657	\$	1,929,686	<u>\$</u>	1,962,397
Total Liabilities	\$	1,498,029	\$	431,657	\$	1,929,686	\$	1,962,397

As provided by Article V, Section 28 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court serves as the ex-officio notary public, the recorder of conveyances, mortgages, and other acts, and has other duties and powers provided by law. The Clerk of Court is elected for a four-year term.

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements of the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court have been prepared in conformity with governmental accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The accompanying basic financial statements have been prepared in conformity with GASB Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements - and Management's Discussion and Analysis - for State and Local Governments, issued in June 1999.

B. Reporting Entity

The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court is an independently elected official; however, the Clerk of Court is fiscally dependent on the DeSoto Parish Police Jury. The Police jury maintains and operates the parish courthouse in which the Clerk of Court's office is located and provides funds for other expenses of the Clerk of Court's office, as necessary. In addition, the Police jury's financial statements would be incomplete or misleading without inclusion of the Clerk of Court. For these reasons, the Clerk of Court was determined to be a component unit of the DeSoto Parish Police Jury, the financial reporting entity.

The accompanying financial statements present information only on the funds maintained by the Clerk of Court and do not present information on the Police jury, the general government services provided by that governmental unit, or the other governmental units that comprise the financial reporting entity.

C. Fund Accounting

The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid management by segregating transactions related to certain Clerk of Court functions and activities. A fund is defined as a separate fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Funds of the Clerk of Court are classified into two categories: governmental and fiduciary, as follows:

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds account for all or most of the Clerk of Court's general activities. These funds focus on the sources, uses, and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may be used. Current liabilities are assigned to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between a governmental fund's assets and liabilities is reported as fund balance. In general, fund balance represents the accumulated expendable resources that may be used to finance future period programs or operations of the Clerk of Court. The following are the Clerk of Court's governmental funds:

General Fund - The General Fund (Salary Fund), as provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 13:781, is the principal fund of the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court and accounts for the operations of the Clerk's office. The various fees and charges due to the Clerk's office are accounted for in his fund.

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

C. Funds Accounting (Continued)

Fiduciary Funds - Fiduciary funds reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The only funds accounted for in this category by the clerk are agency funds. The agency funds account for assets held by the clerk as an agent for litigants held pending court action. These funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations. Consequently, the agency funds have no measurement focus, but use the modified accrual basis of accounting. The Advance Deposit, Registry of Court - Agency Funds account for assets held as an agent for others.

D. Measurement Focus/Basis of Accounting

Government - Wide Financial Statements

The Statement of Net Position (Exhibit A) and the Statement of Activities (Exhibit B) display information about the reporting government as a whole. These statements include all the financial activities of the Desoto Parish Clerk of Court, except for the fiduciary fund. Fiduciary funds are reported only in the Statement of Fiduciary Net Position (Schedule 2) in other supplementary information.

The government - wide financial statements were prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets and liabilities resulting from exchange or exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange occurs (regardless of when cash is received or disbursed). Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets and liabilities resulting from nonexchange transactions are recognized in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement No. 33, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Transactions.

Fund Financial Statements

Governmental funds are accounted for using a current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on the balance sheet (Exhibit C). The Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances (Exhibit E) reports on the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources. This approach differs from the manner in which the governmental activities of the government - wide financial statements are prepared. Governmental fund financial statements therefore include a reconciliation with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government - wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

Fund financial statements report detailed information about the Clerk of Court. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column.

Governmental funds and the agency fund use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when susceptible to accrual (i.e., when they become both measurable and available). Measurable means the amount of the transaction can be determined and available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court considers all revenues available if they are collected within 60 days after the fiscal year end. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for interest and principal payments on general long-term debt which is recognized when due, and certain compensated absences and claims and judgments which are recognized when the obligations are expected to be liquidated with expendable available financial resources. The governmental funds use the following practices in recording revenues and expenditures:

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

D. Measurement Focus/Basis of Accounting (Continued)

Revenues

Fees for certified copies, recording legal documents, marriage licenses, and commissions for services are recorded in the year they are earned. Interest income on time deposits are recorded when the time deposits have matured and the income is available. Interest receivables are accrued in the Advance Deposit Fund; all other revenues are recorded when received.

Expenditures

Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred.

Other Financing Sources/(Uses)

Transfers between funds that are not expected to be repaid (or any other types, such as capital lease transactions, sale of fixed assets, debt extinguishment, long-term proceeds, et cetera) are accounted for as other financing sources/(uses). These other financing sources/(uses) are recognized at the time the underlying events occur.

E. Budgetary Accounting

Formal budgetary accounting is employed as a management control. The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court prepares and adopts a budget each year for its general fund in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statutes. The operating budget is prepared based on prior year's revenues and expenditures and the estimated increase therein for the current year, using the modified accrual basis of accounting. The Clerk of Court amends its budget when projected revenues are expected to be less than budgeted revenues by five percent or more and/or projected expenditures are expected to be more than budgeted amounts by five percent or more. All budget appropriations lapse at year end.

F. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, interest bearing demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

G. Investments

Investments are limited by R.S. 33:2955 and the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court's investment policy. Investments are carried at fair market value as of the balance sheet date.

H. Receivables

All receivables are reported at their gross value and, where applicable, are reduced by the estimated portion that is expected to be uncollectible.

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

I. Bad Debts

Uncollectible accounts receivable are recognized as bad debts through the establishment of an allowance account at the time information becomes available which would indicate the uncollectibility of the particular receivable. At June 30, 2013, \$0 was considered uncollectible.

J. Capital Assets

Capital assets are carried at historical costs. Depreciation of all exhaustible capital assets used by the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court is charged as an expense against operations in the Statement of Activities. Capital assets net of accumulated depreciation are reported on the Statement of Net Position. Depreciation is computed using the straight line method over the estimated useful life of the assets, generally 10 to 40 years for buildings and building improvements and 5 to 10 years for moveable property. Expenditures for maintenance, repairs and minor renewals are charged to earnings as incurred. Major expenditures for renewals and betterments are capitalized.

K. Compensated Absences

Clerk of Court employees earn annual and sick leave at various rates depending on the number of years of service. Leave does not carryover or accumulated from one year to the next, and there are no vesting privileges. Therefore, no liability for compensated absences has been recorded in the accompanying financial statements.

L. Restricted Net Position

In the government-wide statements, equity is classified as net position and displayed in three components:

- 1. Investment in capital assets, net of related debt consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributed to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- 2. Restricted net position net position with constraints placed on the use either by a) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or b) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- 3. Unrestricted all other net position is reported in this category.

M. Fund Equity

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance and displayed in five components:

- 1. Nonspendable amounts that cannot be spent either because they are in nonspendable form or because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.
- 2. Restricted amounts constrained to specific purposes by either a) creditors, grantors, contributors, or the laws or regulations of other governments, or b) constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

M. Fund Equity (Continued)

- Committed amounts constrained to specific purposes by the governmental entity at its highest level of
 decision-making authority (Clerk). These amounts can not be used for any other purposes unless the
 government takes the same highest level action to remove or change the constraint.
- 4. Assigned amounts that do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed that are intended to be used for specific purposes as established by the Clerk or their designee.
- Unassigned all other spendable amounts.

The Clerk establishes (and modifies or rescinds) fund balance commitments and assignments by passage of an ordinance or resolution.

The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court typically uses restricted fund balances first, followed by committed, assigned and unassigned funds when an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of these fund balance classifications could be used.

N. Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues, and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

NOTE 2 DEPOSITS WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INVESTMENTS

A. Deposits with Financial Institutions

For reporting purposes, deposits with financial institutions include savings, demand deposits, time deposits, and certificates of deposit. Under state law, the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court may deposit funds within a fiscal agent bank selected and designated by the Interim Emergency Board. Further, the Clerk of Court may invest in time certificates of deposit of state banks organized under the laws of Louisiana, national banks having their principal office in the state of Louisiana, in savings accounts or shares of savings and loan associations and savings banks and in share accounts and share certificate accounts of federally or state chartered credit unions.

Deposits in bank accounts are stated at cost, which approximates market. Under state law, these deposits must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank. The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent bank. These pledged securities are held in the name of the pledging fiscal agent bank in a holding or custodial bank in the form of safekeeping receipts mutually acceptable to both parties. The deposits at June 30, 2013 were secured as follows:

NOTE 2 DEPOSITS WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

A. Deposits with Financial Institutions (Continued)

	Cash		Certificates of Deposit		Total
Deposits in bank accounts per balance sheet	\$ 2,536,135	\$	2,930,772	\$	5,466,907
	 Cash		Certificates of Deposit		Total
Bank Balances (Category 3 Only, If Any)					
a. Uninsured and uncollateralized	\$ 0	\$	0	\$	0
b. Uninsured and uncollateralized with securities held by					
the pledging institution	0		0		0
c. Uninsured and uncollateralized with securities held by					
the pledging institution's trust department or agent					
but not in the entity's name	0		0		0
Total Category 3 Bank Balances	\$ 0	\$	0	\$	0
Total Bank Balances (All Categories Including Category		58	*	1	
3 Reported Above)	\$ 2,550,802	\$	2,930,772	\$	5,481,574

The following is a breakdown by banking institution and amount of the balances shown above:

Banking Institution	 Amount
Capital One Bank	\$ 59,759
Carter Federal Credit Union	218,327
Citizens National Bank	496,011
Community Bank	1,081,132
Community Trust Bank	182,705
Gibsland Bank	454,853
MidSouth Bank	243,700
Progressive National Bank	2,288,446
Sabine State Bank	250,000
State Farm Bank	 206,641
Total	\$ 5,481,574

B. Investments

The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court maintains investment accounts as authorized by the Louisiana Revised Statutes. Under state law, the Commission may invest in obligations of the U. S. Treasury and U. S. Agencies, or certificates of deposit. Investments are carried at fair market value as of the balance sheet date.

Investments can be classified according to the level of risk to the entity. Investments made by the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court as of June 30, 2013 are summarized below by the category of risk.

Category 1 Insured or registered in the entity's name, or security held by the entity or its agent in the entity's name.

NOTE 2 DEPOSITS WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

B. Investments (Continued)

Category 2 Uninsured or registered with securities held by the counterparty's trust department or agent in the entity's name.

Category 3 Unsecured and unregistered with securities held by the counterparty, or by its trust department or agent but not in the entity's name.

	Α	mount Rep	orted in Ri	sk				
	<u>-</u>	Category	3, If Any	170				
			Hel	d By	To	tal Reported		Total Fair
			Counte	erparty's	A	mount - All		Value - All
			Trust I	Dept. Or		Categories		Categories
	Hel	d By	Agent	Not In		(Including		(Including
Type of Investments	Count	erparty	Entity	's Name		Category 3)	100	Category 3)
Louisiana Asset Management								
Pool, Inc. (LAMP)	\$	0	\$	0	\$	2,012,865	\$	2,012,865
LA Municipal Bonds		0	9	0		103,490	<u> </u>	103,490
Total	\$	0	\$	0	\$	2,116,355	\$	2,116,355

NOTE 3 ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

The following is a summary of accounts receivable at June 30, 2013:

Class of Receivable	
Fees, fines and charges for services	\$ 55,608
Interest	0
Other	 0
Total	\$ 55,608

NOTE 4 CAPITAL ASSETS

A summary of DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court's capital assets at June 30, 2013 follows:

	Balance			Balance
	June 30, 2012	Additions	Retirements	June 30, 2013
Automobile	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Less accumulated depreciation	0	0	0	0
Total Automobile	0	0	0	0
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	247,725	43,007	(10,338)	280,394
Less accumulated depreciation	(141,337)	(56,080)	10,338	(187,079)
Total Furniture, fixtures and equipment	106,388	(13,073)	0	93,315
Total Capital Assets, net	\$ 106,388	\$ (13,073)	<u>\$</u> 0	\$ 93,315

NOTE 5 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUALS

The following is a summary of accounts payable at June 30, 2013:

Class of Payable		
Vendor	\$	28,971
Salaries and related benefits		15,757
Other	9	0
Total	\$	44,728

NOTE 6 PENSION PLAN

Substantially all employees of the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court are members of the Louisiana Clerks of Court Retirement and Relief Fund (System), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by a separate board of trustees.

All regular employees who are under the age of 60 at the time of original employment are required to participate in the System. Employees who retire at or after age 55 with at least 12 years of credited service are entitled to a retirement benefit, payable monthly for life, equal to 3 percent of their final-average salary for each year of credited service, not to exceed 100 percent of their final-average salary. Final-average salary is the employee's average salary over the 36 consecutive or joined months that produce the highest average. Employees who terminate with at least 12 years of service and do not withdraw their employee contributions may retire at or after age 55 and receive the benefit accrued to their date of termination. The System also provides death and disability benefits. Benefits are established and amended by state statue.

The System issues an annual publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the System. That report may be obtained by writing to the Louisiana Clerks of Court Retirement and Relief Fund, 11745 Bricksome Avenue, Suite B, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70816, or by calling (225) 293-1162.

The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court also participates in the State of Louisiana Public Employees Deferred Compensation Plan, which is defined by Internal Revenue Code Section 457. Employees may contribute up to the lesser of (1) 25% of their taxable compensation or (2) \$8,000. The Clerk matches employee contributions up to 7% of the employee's annual salary.

Plan members are required by state statue to contribute 8.25% of their annual covered salary and the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current rate is 17.25% of annual covered payroll. The Clerk has decided to pay the member contributions, 8.25%. Contributions to the System also include one-fourth of one percent of the taxes shown to be collectible by the tax rolls of each parish. The contribution requirements of plan member and the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court are established and may be amended by state statue. As provided by Louisiana Revised Statue 11:103, the employer contributions are determined by actuarial valuation and are subject to change each year based on the result of the valuation for the prior fiscal year. The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court's contribution to the System and the Deferred Compensation Plan for the years ending June 30, 2013, 2012 and 2011, were \$148,324, \$168,339 and \$123,815, respectively, equal to the required contribution for each year.

NOTE 7 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court's defined benefit postemployment health care plan ("the Retiree Health Plan") provides certain medical, dental and life insurance benefits to eligible retired employees and their beneficiaries. The Retiree Health Plan is affiliated with the Louisiana Clerks of Court Insurance Trust ("LCCIT"), an agent multiple-employer postemployment healthcare plan administered by the Louisiana Clerks of Court Association. The plan does not issue a publicly available financial report.

The contribution requirements of plan members and the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court are established and may be amended by the LCCIT board of trustees. The Clerk contributes 100% of the cost of the current year premiums for eligible retired plan members and 50% of the cost for retired plan members' spouses and dependent children. The benefits are financed on a pay-as-you-go basis with the Clerk contributing \$26,951 for retirees in 2013.

For the year ended June 30, 2013, the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court's annual other postemployment benefits ("OPEB") cost is calculated based on the annual required contribution of the employer ("ARC"), an amount actuarially determined in accordance with the parameters of GASB Statement 45. The ARC represents the level of funding that, if paid on an ongoing basis, is projected to cover normal cost each year and to amortize any unfunded actuarial liabilities (or funding excess) over a period not to exceed thirty years. The following table shows the components of the Clerk's annual OPEB cost for the year, the amount actually contributed to the plan, and changes in the Clerk's net OPEB obligation to the Retiree Health Plan:

Beginning net OPEB obligation, July 1, 2012	\$ 533,191
Annual required contribution	67,976
Adjustment to ARC	(30,835)
Interest on net OPEB obligation	 21,328
OPEB cost	58,469
Contributions made	 (26,951)
Change in net OPEB obligation	 31,518
Ending net OPEB obligation, June 30, 2013	\$ 564,709

The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court's annual OPEB cost, the percentage of annual OPEB cost contributed to the plan, and the net OPEB obligation for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013, is as follows:

Fiscal Year Ended	Annual PEB Cost	Percentage of Annual Cost Contributed	Net OPEB Obligation			
June 30, 2011	\$ 192,487	7.29%	\$	352,713		
June 30, 2012	\$ 196,056	7.95%	\$	533,977		
June 30, 2013	\$ 31,518	46.09%	\$	564,709		

The funded status of the plans as of June 30, 2013, was as follows:

Actuarial accrued liability (AAL)	\$ 628,376
Actuarial value of plan assets	 0
Unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL)	\$ 628,376

NOTE 7 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Funded ratio (actuarial value of plan assets/AAL)	0.00%
Covered payroll (annual payroll of active employee covered by the plan) UAAL as a percentage of covered payroll	659,445 95.29%

The projection of future benefit payments for an ongoing plan involving estimates of the value of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events into the future. Examples include assumptions about future employment, mortality, and the healthcare cost trend. Amounts determined regarding the funding status of the plan and the annual required contributions of the employer are subject to continual revision as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employer and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing of benefit costs between the employer and plan members to that point. The actuarial methods and assumptions used include techniques that are designed to reduce short-term volatility in actuarial accrued liabilities and the actuarial value of assets, consistent with the long-term perspective of the calculations.

In the June 30, 2013 actuarial valuation, the entry age actuarial cost method was used. Based on the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court's short-term investment portfolio, a discount rate of 2.0% was used. In addition, the actuarial assumptions included an annual healthcare cost trend rate of 4.50% initially, increased to an ultimate rate of 6.10% after 10 years. The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court's unfunded actuarial liability is being amortized as a level percentage of projected payroll on an open basis over 30 years.

NOTE 8 LEASES

The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court was not obligated under any capital or operating lease agreements at June 30, 2013.

NOTE 9 RISK MANAGEMENT

The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The Clerk of Court maintains commercial insurance coverage covering each of those risks of loss. Management believes such coverage is sufficient to preclude any significant uninsured losses to the Clerk of Court.

NOTE 10 LITIGATION AND CLAIMS

The DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court is a defendant in various litigation as of the close of business on June 30, 2013. Although the outcome of these lawsuits is not presently determinable, in the opinion of the Clerk and legal counsel, resolution of these matters would not create a liability in excess of insurance coverage that would have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the Clerk.

NOTE 11 EXPENDITURES OF THE CLERK OF COURT PAID BY THE PARISH POLICE JURY

The DeSoto Parish Police Jury provided office space, paid all utility bills, some insurance, and furnished some of the equipment in the Clerk's office for the year ended June 30, 2013.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

		Original Budget	-	Amended Budget	Actual	N-	Variance Fav./(Unfav.)
REVENUES							
Fees, fines and charges for services	\$	2,265,575	\$	1,669,000	\$ 1,675,948	\$	6,948
Intergovernmental revenues		19,800		18,000	17,500		(500)
Interest and investment income		13,500		11,000	21,476		10,476
Miscellaneous		1,000	_	21,000	15,063	72	(5,937)
Total Revenues		2,299,875		1,719,000	1,729,987		10,987
EXPENDITURES							
General government							
Personal services		1,235,076		1,115,616	1,038,774		76,842
Travel		8,350		8,350	24,173		(15,823)
Operating services		128,700		100,534	133,982		(33,448)
Supplies		105,000		46,000	45,814		186
Professional services		161,500		161,500	135,403		26,097
Capital outlay		75,000		48,000	 43,007		4,993
Total Expenditures		1,713,626	100	1,480,000	1,421,153		58,847
Excess/(Deficiency) Of Revenues							
Over Expenditures		586,249		239,000	308,834		69,834
Fund Balance, Beginning of year	r	5,361,747	<u>.</u>	5,361,747	5,361,747	æ	0
Fund Balance, End of year	\$	5,947,996	\$	5,600,747	\$ 5,670,581	\$	69,834

OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE 2

DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

Unsettled Balances at July 1, Due to Others	\$	1,962,397
Collections		
Suits and successions		633,019
Judgements		763,150
Interest income		1,855
Other Collections		0
Total Collections	40 40	1,398,024
Total Available for Distribution		3,360,421
Distributions		
Clerk's costs		445,130
Settlements to litigants		874,929
Sheriff's fees		39,739
Other sheriffs and clerks		27,083
Attorneys, curators, notary		1,801
Judges supplemental fund		17,831
Judges expense fund		12,165
Other reductions		12,057
Total Distributions	9	1,430,735
Unsettled Balances at June 30, Due to Others	\$	1,929,686

DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

SECTION #1

SUMMARY OF AUDITORS' RESULTS

No

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Type of auditors' report issued. Unqualified

2. Internal control over financial reporting:

a) Material weakness(es) identified?

b) Significant deficiency(ies) identified that are not considered

to be material weaknesses?

None reported

3. Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?

SECTION #2

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

None reported.

HINES, SHEFFIELD & SQUYRES, L.L.C.

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REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Independent Auditor's Report

Honorable Jeremy M. Evans DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court Mansfield, Louisiana 71052

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court, a component unit of the DeSoto Parish Police Jury, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2013, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Clerk's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 16, 2013.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Clerk's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Clerk's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the DeSoto Parish Clerk of Court's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>.

Page #2

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Hines, Sheffield & Squyres Natchitoches, Louisiana December 16, 2013

DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

	Fiscal Year		Corrective	
	Finding		Action Taken	Planned Corrective
	Initially		(Yes, No,	Action/Partial
Ref. No.	Occurred	Description of Finding	Partially)	Corrective Action Taken

Nothing came to our attention that would require disclosure under Government Auditing Standards.

SCHEDULE 5

DESOTO PARISH CLERK OF COURT MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN FOR CURRENT YEAR AUDIT FINDINGS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

			Name(s) of	Anticipated
			Contract	Completion
Ref. No.	Description of Finding	Corrective Action Plan	Person (s)	Date
NT 41.				

Nothing came to our attention that would require disclosure under <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>.